(ii) Grant of export market assistance on selected thrust export items of jute products;

(iii) Participation in various forum by JMDC at home and abroad for promotion of jute products;

(iv) Enactment of Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 providing foodgrains, Sugar and Urea to be packed in jute bags.

(v) Introduction of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme w.e.f. 1.4.1999 for improvement of productivity, quality and achievement of cost competitiveness of jute products.

**Revival Plan for Employees of NTC**

4. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised revival plan for 73.000 employees of National Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) On the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norms of net worth of these mills turning positive within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the Revival Plan.

**Calculation of Excise Duty on Fabrics**

4. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased
to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are two standards for calculating excise duty on processing of fabrics by composite mills and by weaving .units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Governments plan to make it equitable for all producers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. There are two standards for calculating excise duty on processed fabrics. The details are given below:

Composite and Semi Composite Mills (i.e. units having spinning weaving and processing facilities or units with weaving & processing or spinning & weaving facilities).

(in advalorem %)

| SI. No. | BED | AEEKST) | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Cotton fabrics upto Rs. 30/sq. mtr. | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| 2. Other fabrics | 8 | 8 | 16 |

BED — Basic Excise Duty.

AED(ST) — Additional Excise Duty in lieu of Sales Tax.

Government, vide notification No. 36/98-Central Excise dated 10th December, 1998, effective from 16th December, 1999 Specified the rates of excise duty on textile fabrics processed by an independent processor as under:-

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Processing of fabric upto Rs. 30/sq.mtr. | Rs. 1.5 lakh per stenter chamber per month |
| 2. Processing of fabrics above Rs. 30/-sq. mtr. | Rs.2.00 lakh per stenter chamber per month |

(c) In order to rationalise the fiscal duty structure, Minister of Textiles took a meeting on 15th Dec' 99 with the various associations of industry. Ministry of Textiles will submit its recommendations to the Ministry of Finance for consideration while formulation of the annual budget for the year 2000-2001.

**Avoidance of Excise duty by Spinning units**

2281. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: wil! the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government are aware that many good spinning units are closing because many other units are avoiding excise duty regularly in large, medium and small scale sectors; and

(b)if so, how Government plan to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OFTEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE. N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The$_A$small scaie cotton spinning units are exempted from payment of excise duty under the SSI duty exemption scheme with effect from 1.4.99 upto specified turnover limits. As per the available information to 226 spinning mills are closed as on 30.9.99 due to the reasons given below: